

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-68. (Cancelled)

69. (New): An isolated nucleic acid encoding an endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein that has (i) an amino acid sequence which has at least about 95% sequence similarity with SEQ ID NO: 2 and (ii) lysyl oxidase activity.

70. (New): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 69, wherein the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein further comprises four copies of a scavenger receptor cysteine rich domain having a sequence at least about 80% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 3, 4, 5, and 6 and comprises a sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 7.

71. (New): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 70, wherein the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein encoded for comprises four copies of a scavenger receptor cysteine rich domain having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 3, 4, 5, and 6.

**72. (New):** The isolated nucleic acid of claim 69, which is a cDNA.

73. (New): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 69, wherein the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein encoded for has an amino acid sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 2.

**74. (New):** The isolated nucleic acid of claim 73, which is a cDNA.

75. (New): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 73, which comprises a nucleotide sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 1.

**76. (New):** The isolated nucleic acid of claim 75, which is a cDNA.

**77. (New):** A vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 69.

78. (New): A vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 70.

79. (New): A vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 73.

80. (New): A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 75.

81. (New): The vector of claim 77, wherein the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein is expressed in response to estrogen.

82. (New): A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 77.

83. (New): A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 78.

84. (New): A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 79.

85. (New): A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 80.

86. (New): A method for producing endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein, which method comprises isolating the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein produced by the host cell of claim 82, wherein the host cell has been cultured under conditions that provide for expression of the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein by the vector.

87. (New): A method for producing endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein, which method comprises isolating the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein produced by the host cell of claim 83, wherein the host cell has been cultured under conditions that provide for expression of the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein by the vector.

88. (New): A method for producing endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein, which method comprises isolating the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein produced by the host cell of claim 84, wherein the host cell has been cultured under conditions that provide for expression of the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein by the vector.

89. (New): A method for producing endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein, which method comprises isolating the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein produced by the

host cell of claim 85, wherein the host cell has been cultured under conditions that provide for expression of the endothelial estrogen regulated gene-7 protein by the vector.

90. (New): An isolated oligonucleotide of no more than 100 nucleotides, which oligonucleotide comprises a sequence of at least 20 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1 that hybridizes under highly stringent conditions of 0.2x SSC at 68°C; 50% formamide, 4xSSC at 42°C; or under conditions that afford levels of hybridization equivalent to those observed under either of these two conditions with a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 1.

91. (New): The isolated oligonucleotide of claim 90, wherein at least 30 nucleotides are contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1.

92. (New): The isolated oligonucleotide of claim 90, which is no more than 60 nucleotides in length.

93. (New): The isolated oligonucleotide of claim 90, which is no more than 50 nucleotides in length.

94. (New): The isolated oligonucleotide of claim 90 which is detectably labeled.

95. (New): An isolated oligonucleotide of no more than 100 nucleotides, which oligonucleotide consists essentially of at least 20 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1 that hybridizes under highly stringent conditions of 0.2x SSC at 68°C; 50% formamide, 4xSSC at 42°C; or under conditions that afford levels of hybridization equivalent to those observed under either of these two conditions with a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 1.